

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer: Dear God, we give You thanks for giving us another day.

As we begin the final week before the August recess, we give You thanks as well for the recent progress made over the weekend and ask Your blessing on the Members of the people's House in completing their work on the important legislation that demands their attention.

May goodwill and a common love for our Nation and its people abound in this assembly. Bless the work of the Members, their staff, and all who labor to complete the unfinished work at hand.

As always, may all that is done today and for the rest of this week be for Your greater honor and glory.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. COHEN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. COHEN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

EBOLA OUTBREAK

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, the picture on the front page of this morning's New York Times is about the latest deadly outbreak of Ebola in Africa. This horrible disease knows no borders and has already claimed the lives of 660 people in four countries since it was first detected in March.

The White House needs to pull together the CDC, NIH, State Department, USAID, the World Health Organization, and other Western governments to stave off this outbreak before it spreads further. I am concerned that there is not a sufficient plan in place, either in Africa or in the event that it spreads to the U.S.

We live in a global world. We need a clear plan and strong leadership now. We cannot wait until a case shows up in the United States.

THE WAR ON MARIJUANA

(Mr. COHEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, Sunday's New York Times editorial page—the entire page, a very unusual circumstance—was dedicated to ending our crazy and unsuccessful and expensive war on marijuana, emphasizing that the war on marijuana costs us much money in prosecuting and also ruins people's lives. It costs us more than it protects, and it has a disparate impact on African Americans and minorities, as they are much more likely to be arrested, have a scarlet M on their chest for the rest of their lives, denying them public housing, scholarships, and often jobs.

It is time we left the situation to the States, like we did with alcohol, the last prohibition we had in this country, and let the States make these decisions, as Colorado and Washington have, the laboratories of democracy. Let's make sense of our drug policies and drug laws and not have marijuana and heroin in the same class.

A CRISIS ON THE TEXAS BORDER

(Mr. BURGESS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, as everyone knows now, there is a crisis on the Texas border. And what is the proximate cause of that crisis? It was the President's decision to defer adjudication for childhood arrivals a little over 2 years ago. When the President issued his memorandum, stating that deferred adjudication was now possible, the floodgates opened.

To make that call was irresponsible. But once again, we heard evidence this weekend that the President is, again, thinking of overstepping his authority.

Mr. Speaker, this would only throw gasoline on a fire. We need legislation that will allow for more sensible solutions to be put in place. The executive overreach effectively called for no-holds-barred at the border and has caused great strain on our system.

No one but the President has the power to remedy this legislation. By issuing the order 2 years ago, the President opened the floodgates. It is up to him to quench the bleeding.

FIREFIGHTING BUDGET

(Mr. DEFAZIO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, the end of this week begins the August recess, or district work period. Some of us will go home working—and I am going home to a State that is on fire. We have four major fires, and many dozens of other fires are burning in Oregon, Washington, California, Nevada, and Utah.

The Forest Service and the BLM have about exhausted their budget for fighting fires. They can't stop fighting fires. So they are going to have to gut their other budgets, including budgets that would mitigate future fire risk,

fuel reduction, and other programs. They will also cut recreation and other things that people really care about. Congress has not seen fit to give them adequate money.

There is a bipartisan, bicameral proposal, supported by the President—that is about the rarest thing in Washington, D.C., these days—to give the Forest Service and the BLM the tools they need, an adequate budget, and for these extreme fires—the 1 percent that cost 30 percent of the budget—treat those like emergencies, like we do floods, hurricanes, and tornadoes.

What have the Republicans done with this? Nothing. Nada. Zip. Not one hearing. Not one mention, except in the Ryan budget, where he said he didn't support that approach; they should just gut their budgets, or we should kill some other program to pay for fighting fires.

HOLD THE PRESIDENT RESPONSIBLE FOR HIS BORDER CRISIS

(Mr. SMITH of Texas asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is not too late to do the right thing, and that is hold the President responsible for his immigration policies.

His ignoring immigration laws and weakening immigration laws through executive orders has caused the border crisis. It has encouraged tens of thousands of illegal immigrants to undertake a dangerous journey north.

The burden rests on the President to enforce current immigration laws. Otherwise, he will continue to reap the whirlwind of displaced families and an unsecure border.

To those who say, "We have to do something," the answer is, "Yes, tell the President to uphold the Constitution and faithfully execute the laws."

The President doesn't need more power. He doesn't need more money. He just needs to keep his oath of office.

THE MANY ISSUES FACING THE CONGRESS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, let me welcome the young African leaders that are here from all over Africa. They came because they view America as a working government, a government of democracy and collaboration and coalition. So I welcome them. But I also ask my colleagues to show them that government and pass the emergency supplemental now.

The issues at the border, the unaccompanied children, are not the fault of President Obama or any of us who believe in immigration reform. They are the fault of people fleeing violence, prepared to flee from losing their lives.

Just like the unfortunate circumstances in Nigeria, where Boko